

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6937  
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000  
GERMAN CO-OPERATION  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India and Germany have agreed to start a dialogue relating to hightech specialists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether German information technology specialists have agreed to assist India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Germany has agreed to provide assistance in Information Technology joint ventures; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a)&(b) India and Germany have, since 1974, an ongoing dialogue and programme of co-operation in the field of Science and Technology. This programme provides for the exchange of scientists and researchers in various fields of Science and Technology, including high technology areas like Advanced Materials, Electronics, Space Science, etc.

(c), (d), (e) & (f) The possibilities of bilateral co-operation in the field of information technology have been discussed by the two Governments in the meeting of the Indo-German Joint Commission held in Berlin on April 10-11, 2000. The establishment of an Indo-German Joint Working Group on knowledge-based industry is under consideration by the two Governments. This Working Group would, inter alia, work to promote further co-operation in the IT sector through exchange of technology, expertise and the establishment of joint ventures between the two countries.